The People's Korea

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Pyongyang Hits Pretoria's Maputo Raid

A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry on June 1 issued a statement denouncing another aggressive move on Mozambique committed by the South African racists on May 29.

Branding the armed aggression of the South African troops as a grave infringement upon the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Mozambique and a criminal act violating the elementary norms of international law, the statement said:

The DPRK government and the Korean people bitterly condemn the South African racists' aggression on Mozambique.

The South African racist regime is the root cause of disasters which disturbs peace and security in southern Africa and spells misfortunes and sufferings to the peoples in the region.

The South African racists, in May alone, staged a large-scale military exercise in an area bordering on Botswana while further increasing support to the reactionaries in Mozambique and violating its airspace on several occasions, and this time they raided the capital of Mozambique.

This shows clearly how arrogantly the South African racists behave against the neighbouring countries.

The South African racists' ever more wanton aggressive acts against the neighbouring countries today are desperate moves to get rid of their serious crisis within and without.

It is with the zealous support and patronage by the U.S. that the South African racists freely commit acts of aggression, defying the unanimous denunciation by the progressive people of the world.

Only recently, the U.S. Senate decided to cut aid to the southern African countries unless they stop struggle against the South African racists.

But, with no threat or act of aggression can the U.S. and South African racists stop the just struggle of the southern African peoples including the Mozambican people to defend independence and sovereignty and completely liquidate racism.

The South African racists must immediately give up the aggressive acts against the neighbouring countries and the U.S. must refrain from patronizing and backing the South African racists.

The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people will as ever actively support and encourage the Mozambican people and other peoples of this region in their just struggle against the aggressive acts of the South African racists and for the complete liberation of Africa.

Mothers Demand Release Of Jailed Sons

A 67-year-old grandmother shouts defiance at riot police who arrested about 60 women demonstrating in central Seoul on June 1 against the jailing of their sons and grandsons for anti-government activity. (Reuter)

DPRK Needs Peaceful Environment for Construction: Jap. Dietman

Mr. Utsunomiya Tokuma, an independent member of the Japanese House of Councillors, spoke about his recent visits to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan.

He said the time is ripe for north-south reconciliation and the United States should do something to reduce tensions.

Here is a summary of his speech at the June 1 luncheon:

I was elected to the House of Councillors in 1952 as a member of the Liberal Democratic Party. Since then, I have made efforts to improve relations with neighbouring countries which have different political and social systems like the People's Republic of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, because to have good relations with those countries, I believed, is a major key to the survival of Japan.

Korea, as you know, was a Japanese colony for 36 years. The Cairo Declaration adopted after the Second World War called for a free, peaceful Korea. It did not call for a divided Korea. A homogeneous population speaking a common language lived on a distinct geographical unit, the Korean Peninsula, where they had lived for over a thousand years.

It is quite unnatural for Korea to be divided and it is quite natural for the Korean people to aspire after reunification. Something should be done to reunify the Korean Peninsula.

I have met President Kim Il Sung six times in the past. The first meeting was in 1965. Kim Dae Jung, the former presidential candidate of south Korea, is a close friend of mine. I know both of them very well. I think they can promote north-south reconciliation and reach an agreement on reunifying the country by establishing a confederation.

It is true that north Korea has huge armed forces to cope with a possible attack from the south or the U.S. But President Kim Il Sung knows very well his country cannot win the arms race with the United States.

If one looks at the military situation on the Korean Peninsula, one will find some 50,000 U.S. troops and 1,000 nuclear weapons in south Korea. The United States government itself admits the presence of tactical nuclear weapons in south Korea. There are no Chinese troops or Russian troops in the north. If the United States takes the initiative, the key problem on the Korean Peninsula will be solved rapidly. In fact, former president Jimmy Carter seriously considered the withdrawal of nuclear weapons and troops from south Korea.

Through recent visits to the DPRK, I found that construction was being promoted in the capital city of Pyongyang, especially, in the southern part of the capital which is nearer to the south.

When I visited Pyongyang several years ago, I saw many cranes in the southern part of the capital. At that time, I could not understand the reason why they were constructing many buildings in the southern part which is nearer to the Military Demarcation Line. I thought it was a gesture. But, when I visited Korea this time, I saw many buildings in downtown Pyongyang which have been built for Pyongyang citizens. I had an opportunity to inspect a new hospital with 1,500 beds. The north Koreans are engaged very seriously in the peaceful construction of their country.

Now they are hard at work completing Olympic facilities as well as many international hotels for visitors. What drew my special attention was the fact that soldiers are mobilized for large-scale construction projects. The Nampo Barrage, a kind of dam, was also built by soldiers.

And I think a political leader who can do the job of promoting arms reduction is a man like President Kim Il Sung who can mobilize soldiers for construction projects.

North Korea needs a peaceful environment for construction. I think the time is ripe for north-south reconciliation and the United States should do something about it.

President Kim Il Sung stressed that he wants to replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement between his country and the U.S. and issue a declaration of nonaggression with Seoul as Pyongyang has no such agreement with Seoul. He knows that reunification does not come easily. He also emphasized that his country has no intention of reunifying the country by force.

KPA Vice Marshal Greets USSR Defense Minister

PYONGYANG June 3 (KCNA) — Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army O Jin U, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to General Dmitri Timofeyevich Yazov upon his appointment as minister of defence of the USSR.

The message expresses the belief that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples and armies of Korea and the Soviet Union which were established and have been consolidated in the common struggle against imperialism and for the victory of the cause of socialism and communism will as ever constantly consolidate and develop.

It sincerely wishes the Soviet defence minister big success in discharging his new responsible duty for increasing the defence capabilities of the Soviet Union.

SR-71's Espionage Numbers 10 in May

The United States on May 28 committed an aerial espionage against the DPRK at around 10:19 hours by infiltrating the high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane SR-71 deep into the sky above the territorial waters east of Kosong, the DPRK, the KCNA reported.

Cases of such aerial espionage number 10 in May, the KCNA said.

Reunification of Korea & Problem of N-S Dialogue

Speech of Mr. Song Hyo Gyong

Vice Chairman of Korean Association of Foreign Relations

Pyongyang sent three experts to Tokyo for three days of talks with their counterparts from Moscow, Beijing, Washington, Tokyo and Seoul from May 28 to 30.

This was the first meeting of representatives of the six countries concerned with Northeast Asia.

During the meeting, the three DPRK delegates made speeches on Pyongyang's reunification policy, foreign relations and economic development.

The conference is co-sponsored by the Institute for Sino-Soviet Studies of George Washington University of the United States and the world's largest daily newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun.

Among the participants in the Conference on Security and Economic Development in Asia and the Pacific, was former Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa and the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur, who was a guest speaker.

The Soviet and Chinese delegations in the meeting maintained the position that the United States should withdraw its troops from south Korea to initiate a peaceful solution to the Korean problems.

In the second-day session, Song Hyo Gyong, vice chairman of the Korean Association of Foreign Relations, in his speech entitled "Reunification of Korea and Problem of N-S Dialogue", stressed that "Reunification should be solved independently, free from foreign interference; peacefully, without recourse to arms, and on the principle of national unity, irrespective of the differences in their social systems and religious beliefs."

He criticized "cross recognition" and "simultaneous admission" and stressed to establish a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo.

Here is the full text of his speech (Subtitles are ours. . . Ed.)

Song Hyo Gyong, vice chairman of the Korean Association of Foreign Relations (left) on May 28 talks with a south Korean delegate at the Conference on Security and Economic Development in Asia and the Pacific held in Tokyo. (Daily Yomiuri)

Attempts to Create "Two Koreas"

Forty years have passed since Korea was divided.

The division of Korea has caused the nation innumerable miseries and misfortunes and is the root cause of menace to peace and security on the Korean Peninsula.

It is now the most pressing demand of the times that permits no further delay to put an end to the division of Korea and achieve her reunification.

The reunification of the split country and nation is the greatest desire of the Korean people.

Far stronger than any people in the world is the national sentiments of our people, a homogeneous nation of the same descent, who have shared the fate, joys and sorrows living in the same territory and speaking a single language, through long history.

Most of the Korean people are related each other as parents, wives and children, brothers and sisters or relatives and friends, sharing the same blood.

When repatriate from abroad, Koreans bring home even remains of their dead parents and friends.

As they are endowed with such national sentiments, Koreans are desirous for the reunion of the artificially divided country and nation, whether they are in the north or the south.

They are so desirous that they have composed a song to read "Alive or Dead, Only Wish Is Reunification."

As stated above, the Korean people have set the reunification of their country as the supreme task of the nation which needs the most urgent implementation.

The achievement of Korea's reunification is a question of vital importance connected with the destiny of the Korean nation.

The massive armed forces have been concentrated along the Military Demarcation Line on the Korean Peninsula.

Nuclear weapons and nuclear-carrying equipments are deployed in the south of the Military Demarcation Line, and that is the main cause of tension on the Korean Peninsula.

If any incidental situation is created, the Korean Peninsula will turn into a ground of nuclear war and the entire Korean nation will suffer an irrecoverable nuclear disaster.

Today, when the destiny of the Korean nation is critically endangered, it is necessary for the good of the nation as well as for the peace and security in the world to remove the causes of a new war, thermonuclear war, on the Korean Peninsula.

Korea's reunification is the prerequisite for the removal of the causes of new war danger on the peninsula.

National reunification is the only alternative for the survival of the Korean nation.

However, attempts are now being made to bisect our nation for good by creating "two Koreas", disregarding the Korean people's aspiration after the reunification and their vital interests.

The plans for "simultaneous admittance to the UN" and the "cross recognition" can be cited as typical instances.

The "simultaneous admittance to the UN" and the "cross recognition" are, in essence, aimed at perpetuating Korean division and getting its international recognition.

Realizing the "simultaneous admittance to the UN" and "cross recognition" is an act of throwing a wet blanket over the Korean people's aspirations after reunification and of going against the trend of the times that inclines to national self-determination.

In addition, they have no possibility to be realized as they are faced with opposition of the people of the world who are for Korea's reunification.

In whatever case, arguing the question of Korea without regard to this stern reality can not but counter the interests of the Korean nation.

Therefore, the question of Korea should be discussed in such a way as how to achieve the reunification.

The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea deals with the question of Korea's reunification from the standpoint of the interests of the Korean nation and considers it from the viewpoint of peace and security of the world.

Fair Proposal for a DCRK

The government of our Republic holds that the question of Korea's reunification should be solved independently free from any foreign interference, peacefully without recourse to arms, and on the principle of great national unity, irrespective of the differences in their social systems and religious beliefs.

The principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity advocated by the government of our Republic were defined as the three principles of national reunification in the north-south joint statement made public in 1972.

We think that two aspects should on all accounts be taken into consideration to be settled in conformity with the principles of reunification proclaimed internally and externally by the north and south.

The other aspect is the fact that the Korean people have lived with different ideas and social systems, divided into north and south, for over 40 years.

Never will Korea be reunified, if the difference in ideology and system is regarded as an absolute feature, not taking into account the common ground of the nation.

On the contrary, if the difference in ideology and system is disregarded looking at only the common feature of the nation, the question of Korea will not be solved for good due to the contradiction of interests of both sides.

Therefore, the question of Korea must be solved through the revival of the common features of the nation and on the condition that the north and the south tolerate the differences in ideology and system, thus finding the way of not taking or taken each other.

Long ago, the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea advanced a proposal for reunifying the country by founding a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo, after due consideration of our people's aspirations for reunification and the reality in the north and south.

The basic idea of the proposal for founding the confederal state is that the north and the south jointly establish a unified national government on condition that the two sides recognize and tolerate each other's ideas and social systems, a government under which they exercise regional autonomy respectively with equal rights and duties.

Reflected in this proposal is the idea that the sovereignty of the Korean nation should be established and the national unity realized on the basis of the common features of the homogeneous nation.

While the establishment of sovereignty is to recover the right of the dignified and independent nation, the national unity is to link up the consanguinity of the homogeneous nation through the concerted efforts of the north and south.

It is the unanimous aspiration and demand of the entire Korean people to achieve national reunification, guarantee the independent development of the nation, and to end the calamity of national split on the basis of the common feature of the nation.

There is no reason why the homogeneous nation cannot reunify the country by founding a confederal state, while other different nations live together in a confederal state.

Also reflected in the proposal is that the assertion that different ideas and social systems can coexist in one country.

In many countries, people with different ideas and political views are living together within the framework of a state, and in some countries, people with different ideas have formed a government.

It is a hard fact that different ideologies coexist and people with different political views and ideas living together in one country.

Different social systems, too, can coexist in one country.

When the character of a social system is changed, the relations of ownership which form the basis of a social system do not change into a unitary form.

So long as different types of ownership can exist and actually do exist under one social system, different social systems can coexist in one country.

When a confederal state is established, it will recognize and protect state, cooperative and private property, and interests of foreign capital invested in south Korea will still be guaranteed.

The proposal for the establishment of a confederal state contains the position to shape out the destiny of the Korean nation independently on the basis of a neutral foreign policy.

If a unified Korean nation in a federal system is to hew out its future on its own, it should enforce non-aligned neutral policy.

If a neutral state of confederation is established and a buffer zone is created, there will be no danger for the Korean Peninsula to be drawn into the sphere of influence of any country and there will be a great prospect before the Korean nation to shape out its destiny which suits to its aspirations and demand.

Also, the united confederal state would diversify its diplomacy, enter the United Nations under a single state name, establish neighborly and friendly relations with all the countries in the Asian and Pacific region, and contribute to common efforts for peace and security in this region.

Today the people of the world say unanimously that this proposal for a confederal state is a reasonable and fair one that fully reflects the reality and interests of the north and the south of Korea and position of other countries related, in a certain way, with the Korean question.

As seen above, the principles of reunification have already been set and we have the proposal comprising reasonable subjects for discussion. This being the situation, if the north and the south

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Foreign Policy of DPRK

Speech of Mr. Kim Gon Hwan

Deputy Director of Institute of International Affairs, The DPRK

Kim Gon Hwan, deputy director of the Institute of International Affairs of the DPRK, said on the second day of the conference, from May 28 to 30 that Pyongyang is willing to consider any proposals by Seoul and Washington if they are helpful in reducing tensions and promoting reunification.

In his paper on "The Foreign Policy of the DPRK", he called relations between the DPRK and the U.S. "extremely abnormal" and complained that Washington and Tokyo follow a one-sided policy of giving total support to south Korea.

He revealed that the north-south high-level talks proposed by the DPRK last Jan. 11 included a plan to "increase the authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to organize an inspection force with military personnel from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Switzerland and Sweden which would watch military movement on both sides of the Demilitarized Zone."

He also stressed that the Soviet Union and China "always render unchanged support for the peace-loving foreign policy of the DPRK." He also stated that traditional bonds of Korean-Chinese and Korean-Soviet friendship have been "further cemented and developed through the summit meetings and talks held over recent years."

Here are excerpts from his speech (Subtitles are ours . . . Ed.):

The D.P.R. of Korea pays primary attention to strengthening friendship and unity with the socialist countries and directs great efforts to strengthening solidarity and cooperation with the Third World countries including the non-aligned countries.

The government of the Republic also establishes friendly relations and develops economic and cultural interchanges with the capitalist countries that respect the sovereignty of our country and treats it in a friendly manner.

And the D.P.R. of Korea is committed to the global peace and security and strives to dismantle aggressive military bloc, curb nuclear arms race, realize complete disarmament and establish nuclear-free, peace zones in many parts of the world.

The bonds of traditional Korea-China and Korea-Soviet friendship have been further cemented and developed through the summit meetings and talks held in recent years.

Next, I would like to present my views on the relations between the D.P.R. of Korea and the United States.

In a word, the relations between Korea and the U.S. are in an extremely abnormal state.

In the history of the international relations, it has been common practice for the war rivals, though fought against each other, to sit together after the fighting and consult the matters in restoring and developing the relations on a new base.

Even though 34 years have elapsed since the ceasefire, the relation between the D.P.R. of Korea and the United States have not yet been normalized, but the two sides are confronted with each other along the Military Demarcation Line.

If the Korea-U.S. relations are to be improved from its present hostility, first of all, a practical step should be taken to reduce tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Pyongyang's Sincere Efforts to Improve DPRK-U.S. Relations

The D.P.R. of Korea has directed every sincere effort to remove the sharp tension on the Korean Peninsula and improve the relations between Korea and the United States.

The D.P.R. of Korea put forward in March 1974 the proposal to hold talks between our Republic and the U.S. and adopt a peace agreement, and in January 1984 the proposal to hold the tripartite talks between our Republic, the United States and south Korea.

Furthermore, in February last year the D.P.R. of Korea set forth the proposal to convert the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone and suggested to the United States administration to have consultations on this issue.

Nevertheless, no response has been made by the United States and, on the contrary, the U.S. leads the situation of the Korean Peninsula to the brink of a war and further aggravates the relations between Korea and the United States.

As is known to the world, the United States has deployed 1,000 nuclear weapons in addition to armed forces 40,000 strong in south Korea, turning south Korea into the most dense area in the nuclear deployment in the world.

The U.S. annually conducts the joint military exercise "Team Spirit" aiming at our Republic since 1976 and the scale of the exercise is enlarged every year.

The continuation of such situation causes greater misunderstanding and distrust and leads the situation to the brink of a war.

If a war breaks out again in the Korean Peninsula, it would undoubtedly spread into a thermonuclear war and bring about a great disaster to the whole world, to say nothing of the Northeast Asia.

The D.P.R.K. put forward on the 11th January last the proposal on the north-south high-level talks in order to remove such military confrontation prevailing in the Korean Peninsula and lay ground for peaceful reunification.

In my opinion, the point that deserves special attention with regard to this proposal is the plan to increase the authority of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and to organize a neutral nations inspection force with military personnel from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Switzerland and Sweden as a body to watch the military moves of the both sides in the Demilitarized Zone.

According to the articles concerned of the Armistice Agreement, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission is supposed to conduct supervison and inspection in places out of the Demilitarized Zone, but not in the Demilitarized Zone.

Therefore, if that authority is given to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and a neutral nations inspection force is organized, the tension which is strained with the Demarcation Line in between could be relaxed, the danger of a war outbreak by any incident be prevented, and, furthermore, a reliable foundation could be built for ensuring the conversion of the unstable Armistice Agreement in Korea into a durable peace agreement.

Pyongyang-Washington Peace Agreement Should Be Signed

In the light of the present situation created in the DMZ as well as the original purpose of the Armistice Agreement, this proposal of the Republic is viewed as the most reasonable and important that is acceptable to the both sides of the north and south as well as the U.S.

May I refer now to the "confidence-building plan" proposed by the U.S. in September last year and the fact that President Reagan, in his interview with "Asahi Shimbun" on the 30th April this year, said that the United States is committed to the reduction of tension on the Korean Peninsula and that the U.S. and Korea should hand out toward each other.

This can be considered as self-consciousness of the duty as the party directly concerned and a positive attitude which conforms with the aspirations after and expectations for the relaxed situation of the two peoples of Korea and the United States.

As seen above, the invariable policy of the D.P.R. of Korea is to ease tension on the Korean Peninsula and solve the Korean problem in a peaceful way.

Since the United States recognized her responsibility to ease tension on the Korean Peninsula and the United States and our Republic decided to hand out each other, it is high time to hold a productive dialogue beyond social contacts between the two countries.

If both parties, Korea and the U.S., sit face to face and have repeated consultations with each other, a good clue will be found for easing tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

The D.P.R. of Korea would take with sincerity any proposal if it is helpful in easing tension and achieving the national reunification, and would seek practical steps if the United States put forward a more constructive proposal.

We could build confidence by dispelling misunderstanding and distrust in the course of taking such practical steps and, in the long run, lay a reliable foundation to replace unstable ceasefire agreement with a peace agreement.

The government of our Republic is always ready to negotiate with the United States and respond with a tangible step to a constructive proposal by the U.S.

Furthermore, if the relations between Korea and the United States are to be improved, practical measures should also be taken to dispel distrust and promote trust between the two countries.

Since long ago the D.P.R. of Korea has allowed Americans including the congressmen to visit our country in order to improve Korea-U.S. relations and promote the understanding each other.

However, the United States does not permit even the civilians like scholars or sportsmen to visit the United States and also keeps the door closed to the delegations of our Republic to international forums.

In 1985 alone, the United States did not issue visas to the delegations of our Republic which were supposed to attend the "International Symposium on Peace and Security of the Pacific Region" and "International Seminar on the World Peace and Economy" held in Washington and "the 41st Conference of the International Film Archives Union" held in New York talking of the "threat to the wealth and security of the United States."

Also in March last year the United States refused the entry into the United States of scholars of our Republic who were invited to the 38th annual meeting of the U.S. Association of Asian Studies, saying that "visas can not be issued unless the north-south talks are held."

This is clearly an unfortunate situation and too distant from the desire of the peoples for the reduced tension on the Korean Peninsula and improved relations between Korea and the United States.

If the United States is really for the improved relations between Korea and the United States, it should not be difficult for her to move from such unfriendly policy of refusing the entry of our citizens into the U.S. with the condition of north-south dialogue and closing the door to our delegations to international meetings held in the U.S. under the pretext of the threat to the security of the U.S.

I would like to refer to the step taken in last March with regard to the contact guideline of the U.S. officials with the Korean diplomats.

The United States showed her wish

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Sigur Painted Distorted Picture of Things: Rodong Sinmun

Rodong Sinmun and Minju Choson on June 3 lash out at the persistent efforts made by the U.S. delegation at the Conference on Security and Economic Development in Asia and the Pacific in Tokyo to reduce it to a lever for promoting the U.S. Korean strategy.

The signed commentary of Rodong Sinmun captioned "Trumpeter for the Line of War and Division" says:

Gaston Sigur, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, zealously defended the south Koreans' anti-dialogue and anti-reunification stand, preached the U.S. line of aggression and war and revealed the unsatiated imperialist desire for Korea and the Asian region.

Sigur said the arms expansion policy should be abandoned in the Asian-Pacific region for security there. But this was a brazen, robber-like outcry.

The United States is not in a position to appeal to anyone to drop the arms expansion policy.

For the relaxation of tensions on the Korean Peninsula, first of all, the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons, the source of growing tensions, must be pulled out of south Korea and the U.S. policies of division and war toward Korea be ended.

At the meeting, Sigur contended that the movement for the establishment of nuclear-free zones is harmful to "security." This was a high-handed challenge to the Korean people and the rest of the Asian people and the world peace-loving people demanding detente and denuclearisation on the Korean Peninsula.

In its bid to keep hold on south Korea as the foremost nuclear attack base, the United States at the Tokyo conference nudged the south Korean puppet delegate and other paid trumpeters to loudly advertise the "two Koreas" policy keynoted by "entry into the United Nations" and "cross recognition".

While madly seeking the line of war and division vis-a-vis Korea, Sigur painted a distorted picture of things by claiming that only the United States and the south Korean authorities were interested in dialogue while the DPRK was not.

It is the United States which is goading the south Korean authorities to division, confrontation and war after leading north-south dialogue to a rupture. It is again the United States which has barred positive contact and dialogue and increased tensions by unreasonably urging us, who had made many peaceful initiatives and taken peaceful measures, to take a step first, while taking no step itself for detent and only paying lip service to DPRK-U.S. contact and dialogue. The United States is the very one which is laying a stumbling block in the way of a peaceful solution of the Korean question and increasing the danger of war on the Korean Peninsula.

Rising Protests Vs. Get-Tough Stand

—Kim Dae Jung Placed under House Arrest for Two Months—

The south Korean authorities have confined prominent dissident figure Kim Dae Jung to his house for about two months since Apr. 8, the day when he was to attend a news conference to announce the formation of a new "clear-cut" party, the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP).

This unusually long house arrest – in the past it continued just for a few days – prompted Amnesty International Secretary-General Ian Martin who arrived at Seoul on May 24 to voice the denunciation, saying it had "no legal basis."

The senior officer of the London-based organization described the purpose of his visit as having a first-hand look at the human rights situation in the southern part of Korea, which has been hit by a wave of protests against the January death of a student by police torture and the subsequent cover-up of culprits.

He was not allowed to meet with Kim, who is Gen. Chun Doo Hwan's political archfoe.

On Jun. 1, some 100 of his supporters, raising their fists into the air, chanted "Down with dictatorship" in a protest action near his residence.

There are several observers who see this suppressive measure as an omen of political confusion, which some of them say, could even rival that of 1980, when Chun seized power through a bloody oppression.

At least, the dictatorial regime and the democratic forces are now headed for a head-on collision.

Chun's Democratic Justice Party (DJP) is scheduled for a convention on Jun. 10 to tab party chairman Roh Tae U as "a presidential candidate" in a coming election under the unchanged constitution.

On the same day, another big rally is planned by the recently inaugurated National Coalition for Democratic Constitution, comprising all dissident forces, to hamper Chun's political timetable.

Its charges will be focussed on the regime's human rights abuses with regard to the torture death of a student and the Apr. 13-announced freeze on debate on a constitutional revision. Such criticism is the last thing Chun needs.

When the DJP on Jun. 3 officially made it known that Roh will run for "the presidency," the opposition camp reaffirmed its resistive stand.

One can easily predict that south Korea will be shaken by a vehement protest from dissidents who are sure to clash with heavily-geared riot police on that day.

In a step to ensure the success of its meeting, the regime has reinforced its crackdown with an arrest of four RDP members in an early morning blitz.

They were forcibly taken away on Jun. 2 in connection with the RDP's platform on national reunification, which the authorities utilized in a bid to crush the outspoken opposition party.

The programme gives top priority to Korea's reintegration transcending political beliefs and systems.

The Chun junta charged it with being akin to Pyongyang's idea, despite the fact that Chun himself said in June six years ago, "Reunification is not the exclusive property of a particular party or a particular system, nor is it a particular idea because it is a problem of the whole nation."

On the other hand, anti-government protests are gaining support from ever-widening sections of people.

As evidence of this, 150 journalists of The Hankook Ilbo, one of Seoul's four leading papers, on May 29 came out with a statement condemning the authorities for both shelving constitutional debate and press censorship.

South Korean key dissident Kim Dae Jung in the backyard of his Seoul home on Jun. 1, while a group of about 100 supporters struggle with riot police outside. Kim has been under house arrest since Apr. 8. The banner behind him reads, "Lift illegal confinement of Mr. Kim Dae Jung." (Reuter)

This followed The Dong-A Ilbo whose 114 staff members issued a similar statement four days earlier.

"This may spread to other (newspaper) companies hereafter," said Japan's Kyodo News Agency.

Students' activities also showed how high anti-Chun sentiments are running.

According to the National Police Headquarters (which usually doctors statistics), during the past five months, on-and-off campus demonstrations took place on 1,370 occasions, up 55 percent over the same period of last year, while they involved 312,297 students, a 23 percent increase.

What deserves attention is that students took to the streets 331 times, a surprising rise of more than 300 percent from 1986's 101.

On the part of religionists, Buddhist monks are staging demonstrations and sit-ins almost daily. Notable was a 200-meter march of about 700 monks and young laymen yelling "Down with the military dictatorship," which followed a demonstration on Jun. 1.

In the National Assembly, outside of which major scuffles are on the horizon, however, the ruling party avoided battling with its opponents by boycotting a special session as the No. 1 opposition RDP demanded that the parliamentary right be invoked to probe the aforementioned fatal torture case.

RDP legislators launched a three-day hunger strike in protest against the Chun-led party, which feared that it would be put under fire before a planned Jun. 10 convention.

Socio-Economic, Pol. and Human Rights Situation in S. Korea (2)

(Continued from the previous issue)

In spite of a brief resilience of the economy thanks to the "three downs" (that of oil costs, dollar and rate of interests) during 1986, the foreign loans at the end of 1986 amounted to ca. 50 billion dollars (according to a Japanese publication it is 52.6 billion dollars and according to the South Korean statistics, 45.8 billion dollars.)

The very "success" of the South Korean economy is intricately bound up in the creation of a high dependency on international capital.

Without constantly increasing amounts of capital from external sources, the export-oriented economy which characterizes the South Korean dependent capitalism, can not maintain its high rates of growth.

What then are the conditions under which the Korean labourer works for example?

The average wage of about 50% of workers is ca. 100,000 won a month, which makes only one sixth of the minimum cost of living, that, according to the recent publication of the Federation of Korean Trade Unions amounts to 600,000 won; the actual unemployment rate is 22.5% of the economically active population, including underemployment and disguised unemployment; the working day is not eight hours, but 10-12 hours on the average and not uncommonly up to 18 hours; the effect of long working hours and low wages is exacerbated by unbearable working conditions: health insurance is non-existent, yet industrial accidents, including death and amputation of limbs occur at a frequent rate; poor ventilation, high noise levels, excessive heat, too rigid work rythms are all common problems that contribute to various industrial diseases; the trade unionism as a mechanism for the protection of the interests of workers is, under the present circumstances, simply unthinkable: the independent labour movements which were already largely emasculated by the regime of Syngman Rhee in the late forties have been even more drastically curtailed by the two following military dictators Pak Chung Hee and Chun Doo Hwan; all trade unions to exist are required to join the government-sponsored Federation of Korean Trade Unions; a few democratic and independent unions, the Chunghechun Garment Union, the federation of workers in the region of Inchun and the federation of workers in Seoul were put under a ban last November after the Asian Games.

In order to impose these slavery conditions on the working people, an increasing repression is inevitable, in the face of the growing resistance of the exploited people. To assure foreign support and the success of export, the regime creates every kind of favourable environments, repressing brutally the social and economic aspirations of the people.

Basically, the South Korean regime serves the interests of export-oriented domestic and foreign capital at the expense of Korean people, and foreign capital and governments support the South Korean dictatorship in return.

In this sense, the socio-economic injustice and repression of the people in South Korea are interconnected facets of a single policy of the dependent capitalism of the South Korean regime.

Struggle of South Korean People— Hope and New Danger

These are the political and socio-economic backgrounds of human rights violation in South Korea, the main and original cause of which lies in the dependent relations to foreign powers.

Through their experiences in struggle, the South Korean people have come to grasp the existence of the interwoven network of domination by Korean capitalists, by the dictator in power, by the international capital and the foreign military force.

It is the reason why the present struggle of the South Korean people against the Chun regime is increasingly being directed also against any form of foreign influence or control over South Korea, especially against the US presence.

Unlike the April 19th 1960 student uprising which, with the support of intellectuals and later of the general public, succeeded in toppling the dictatorial regime of Syngman Rhee, and unlike the workers uprising of Pusan and Masan in the 1970's spring which contended to put an end to the regime of Pak Chung-Hee, the new political developments which are clearly manifest through the campaigns for democratic constitutional revision and the struggle for the national independence and reunification since last year, have the characteristic of a popular movement which comprises all social groups of South Korean society.

This popular movement is now arrived at a turning point in which it should be decided, certainly before the Olympic Games in 1988, whether the concerted popular struggle can find a way out leading to the liberation of the oppressed and of the entire Korean nation from foreign domination which is precisely the original cause of the human rights violation in South Korea, whether it will end in yet another coup d'etat or some other type of repressive system.

Human Rights as Right to Self-Determination of Korean People

This paper has tried to explain the externally-caused characteristics of the human rights violation in South Korea which is diametrically contrary to the political and socio-economic aspirations of the entire Korean people.

Consequently, as long as this external cause, conditioned by the foreign domination, remains, the violation of human rights in South Korea will continue to exist.

As long as the self-determination of the Korean people is not completely recovered, the problem of human rights violation will not be resolved.

Here we see a reasonable ground for the problem of human rights violation in South Korea to be treated as a problem of right to self-determination and as such any solution is to be found from this view-point, because the South Korean people does not live freely and voluntarily under the legal order of the Republic of Korea in the present circumstances.

The Special Rapporteur is right (E/CN. 4/Sub. 2/405/Rev. 1), when he says: "the right of peoples to self-determination must now become fully realized, as the basis for a new international society in which international peace and security and human rights must be more effectively assured. The Special Rapporteur can only conceive of this new international society as being based on respect for all human rights and freedom, including the right to self-determination".

(To be continued)

S. Korea's Press Freedom on Trial

The Asian Wall Street Journal on Jun. 2 carried an article on the Mal (Korean for "words") case, in which three expelled journalists, who exposed the existence of "press guidelines" issued by the Chun junta, were on trial under the tough National Security Law.

The Hong Kong-based journal quoted a Western diplomat as saying, "It is press freedom, the criminal justice system in Korea and the future of democratization itself that are on trial here."

Meanwhile, the three journalists on trial were awarded south Korea's first annual Catholic Award for Freedom of the Press. Their wives received the prize at the Myongdong Cathedral in Seoul on May 31 instead of them as they were in custody.

Here are some excerpts from the AWSJ's article:

SEOUL – Three journalists in prison garb take turns in the dock to plead for their freedom.

The packed courtroom murmurs its approval of their self-defense as the president of the chief opposition political party and five members of the National Assembly crowd in among the spectators to lend their moral support.

Fourteen uniformed police and a dozen in plain clothes form a barricade between the court and the spectators. As he has often done during the proceedings, the judge is dozing.

Committee Member

The defendants are 32-years-old Kim Ju-On, a former copy editor of the Hankuk Ilbo daily newspaper, 44-year-old Kim Tae-Hong, general secretary of the Council for a Democratic Press Movement, former president of the Korean Journalists Association and former editor of the Korean Reader's Digest; and 45-year-old Shin Hon-Bom, former journalist of the Chosun Ilbo daily newspaper and a member of the press council's steering committee.

They are being tried for violating the most important of the media guidelines the government uses to control the press: publishing the guidelines themselves.

Judge Park Tae-Bum has promised to deliver his verdict Wednesday (May 27). If convicted, the trio, who have already spent nearly six months in prison, could be sentenced to terms ranging from five to seven years.

The three journalists have been chosen to receive Korea's first annual Catholic Award for Freedom of the Press. On Sunday (May 31), Stephen Cardinal Kim Sou-Hwan, Korea's prelate, gave the tributes to the wives of the three, who were unable to accept the awards themselves. Cardinal Kim praised the men for "demonstrating the vigor of a sincere journalist's style amidst the suffering of the time."

The case is a significant one for South Korea. According to the press council, it marks the first time since President Chun Doo Hwan came to power in 1979 that any reporter has gone on trial. Lawyers say the outcome will provide a major test of the government's so-called democratization program and will likely set a precedent for future legal action against the press.

As it comes soon after renewed scandal over the torture and killing of a college student by police earlier this year, the case is getting international attention. The U.S. State Department and Congress, European governments, Amnesty International, the International Press Institute and other media organizations are monitoring the trial.

"It is press freedom, the criminal justice system in Korea and the future of democratization itself that are on trial here," says a Western diplomat. "If they are convicted and sent to prison . . . the consequences for this government could be enormous."

Significant Insight

The case also is significant for its insights into the sophistication with which Seoul has learned to control the press.

Last September, the Council for a Democratic Press Movement, an association of journalists who have been blacklisted by the government, published a special edition of its bimonthly magazine, Mal (Korean for "words"). The 63-page edition, titled "Conspiracy of Power and the Press," was devoted to listing the texts of hundreds of daily "Information Guidelines" issued by the government to the media between Oct. 19, 1985, and Aug. 8, 1986.

In December, the three journalists were arrested and charged under the National Security Law for publishing "groundless rumors" in that edition of Mal. Kim Ju-On was accused of keeping a nine-month record of the guidelines and passing them to Mal editors for publication. The other two were charged with helping to publish that issue to the magazine.

The charges were later revised to "violation of the National Security Law, leaking diplomatically confidential information and slandering the government and debasing the national dignity." The press council alleges that one of the three, Kim Tae-Hong, was tortured during police interrogation.

The Information Guidelines that the defendants brought to light are government instructions sent every day to each newspaper publisher by the Ministry of Culture and Information's Department of Public Information Control (previously known as the Department of Public Information Adjustment).

Embassy Report

The U.S. Embassy in Seoul, in a confidential report about the Mal case, says a group of 13 people in the information-control department "prepare and disseminate daily detailed press guidelines to the senior editors of each newspaper."

Using such terms as "possible," "impossible," and "absolutely impossible," the department regulates myriad details of publication, including the form, content and presentation of reports about particular incidents and situations.

The guidelines – termed "requests for cooperation" by government officials – include general and explicit instructions on a wide range of political and economic topics. They cover whether an article should be published at all, how long it should be, on which pages and in which columns it should appear, what words should or shouldn't be used, what size the headline must be and what photos can or can't be used.

On a given day, the guidelines might tell editors to refrain from covering image-damaging subjects, such as U.S. government statements that are critical of south Korea's human-rights record. On another day, they might advise big play for statements about U.S. concern over security issues in Korea.

Editors are instructed to label student, trade union and religious demonstrations against the government as "pro-communist" and "violent." They are told to give minimum coverage to the activities of opposition leaders, such as Kim Dae-Jung and Kim Young Sam.

The following brief selection from the guidelines Mal published is a verbatim translation except in minor matters of this newspaper's style:

– Oct. 25, 1985: Don't report the statement of National Assembly Speaker Lee Jae Hyung, who said that the government shouldn't follow, wiretap, or harass members of the National Assembly.

– Nov. 1, 1986: Don't report the Financial Times story which says that south Korea and Communist China are setting up a joint venture.

– Dec. 23, 1985: Don't report the UPI story on the "possibility of south Korea's economy worsening in 1986." (UPI, United Press International, is a news wire service.)

– Jan. 19, 1986: Don't report the news that Communist China is organizing tourist groups to North Korea through a travel agency in Hong Kong.

– Jan. 31, 1986: Regarding the kidnapping of a south Korean diplomat in Lebanon, don't speculate on what terrorist faction did this. Report the incident in such a way as to create the impression that it was done by North Korea.

– March 6, 1986: Put to the front pages a four-column or more story about the statement to the effect that south Korea differs from the Philippines, made by the spokesman of the U.S. State Department in a press briefing and by (Paul) Wolfowitz in his farewell statement as assistant undersecretary of state.

– March 10, 1986: Don't report the labor minister's statement in an interview that he would consider petitioning for the release of detained workers. The labor minister isn't in a position to petition.

– July 27, 1986: In Kyongdong mine in Samchok, the miners and their families are negotiating with the company, requesting payment of the wage for June and holidays. This matter is absolutely impossible to be carried at all, as this will cause social disturbances.

'Most Egregious'

The one consistent object of the guidelines, says the U.S. Embassy report, "is to support the government itself." The report says the "most egregious abuse" of media coverage is on civil-rights violations. "They also give the greatest damage to the public standing of the United States in Korea" by issuing "Don't report guidelines on State Department statements on human rights in south Korea."

> *Joining the debate, a U.S. State Department official last month told a House of Representatives subcommittee hearing that "to stay out of trouble, Korean media consider it necessary to adhere to various forms of self-censorship following guidelines provided by the government. Journalists who object or ignore these guidelines suffer various forms of harassment, including the loss of their job."*

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Rep. Barbara Boxer of California sent a letter to other legislators last January about the Mal case, saying it was "imperative that we, as members of Congress, express to President Chun our concern about these human-rights abuses," and soliciting signatures for a letter of complaint to Seoul. The letter, signed by 47 legislators, was sent to Mr. Chun.

The U.S.-based Committee to Protect Journalists wrote to Mr. Chun last January, demanding the release of the three journalists. The Washington-based American Newspaper Guild, which represents 40,000 news-industry employees in the U.S. and Canada, also has complained to Seoul.

And the London-based Index on Censorship devoted nine pages to the Korean media situation last month, with the gloomiest report yet on press freedom in Korea. The report says, in part: "Press control by the present government has reached an excellent standard, and its main method of control is to mislead by exaggerating trivial marginal details rather than by outright concealment of the substance of the phenomena."

Above: The front page of Mal titled "Conspiracy of Power and the Press" published by the Council for Democratic Press Movement.

'None Necessary'

Korean editors say the government has continued issuing daily guidelines during the Mal case, which has received little publicity in the local press. Only a few short items, usually lost among the general domestic news on the inside pages, have appeared since the three journalists were arrested.

One editor says that while there are no specific guidelines on how to treat the Mal case, "none are necessary – we all know what we aren't supposed to do about this story: report it."

The government's commitment to controlling the press took shape shortly after Mr. Chun came to power. In 1980, more than 700 journalists from roughly 40 newspapers and the broadcast media were fired and prohibited from writing by the government. The state also banned 172 periodicals on charges of "obscenity and creating social confusion." More than 600 publishing companies were closed. Each province was allowed only one newspaper.

Two independent broadcasting companies were merged into the government-controlled Korean Broadcasting Service. The Christian Broadcasting Service was confined to religious programs, and the government took over majority Munhwa ("Culture") Broadcasting Corp.

The government's chief instruments for control of the media are the Information Guidelines and the Basic Press Law enacted in 1980. Under the law, publishers are required to obtain a printing license from the government but can't do so unless they own expensive equipment for large-scale printing.

Publishers and broadcasting companies have to submit copies of publications or recordings of broadcasts to the Ministry of Culture and Information, which can revoke the licenses of a publisher who transgresses the state's – sometimes ill-defined – notions of propriety. All domestic journalists are licensed and must be accredited by the government to have their articles published.

The U.S. Embassy report on the Mal case is highly pessimistic about the likelihood that control of Korea's press will soon be relaxed. "Even if a policy of press freedom were established tomorrow," the report concludes, "it would take as long for us to untangle the deceptions as it did for the Korean government to weave them."

The government has steadfastly ignored requests from The Asian Wall Street Journal and most other news organizations to respond to reports about the Information Guidelines.

Central Meet to Mark 50th Anniv. of Victory of Pochonbo Battle

A central meeting was held on May 3 at the February 8 House of Culture to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the victory in the Pochonbo Battle personally organized and commanded by President Kim Il Sung.

The Pochonbo Battle on Jun. 4, 1937 was a historical operation of advance into the homeland which was waged by the Korean People's Revolutionary Army under the wise leadership and far-reaching plan of President Kim Il Sung to awaken the whole nation with the firm conviction of victory and arouse it to a nation-wide anti-Japanese war of resistance for an early liberation of the country.

At the meeting a report was made by Pak Sung Chul, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice president.

The reporter called for keeping up a staunch struggle, firmly maintaining the resolute anti-imperialist fighting spirit and the steadfast stand of Juche which were displayed in the Pochonbo Battle 50 years ago, so as to realize the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and bring the revolutionary cause of Juche to a brilliant accomplishment.

In those grim days President Kim Il Sung with an unbounded love for the country and the people launched the operation of advance into the homeland by a large force.

The Pochonbo Battle was a historical battle which demonstrated once again to the world the superb military tactics and daring art of the President.

A statue of President Kim Il Sung has been erected at the Pochonbo Revolutionary Battle Site.

Preserved there as they were are the raft bridge used by President Kim Il Sung in advancing into Pochonbo, the site of the command in Konjangdok, the commanding site of the Pochonbo Battle, etc.

There are also the police substation and the *myon* (sub-county) office, etc. of the Japanese which still bear traces of attack by the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

Monuments have been set up at all places associated with the revolutionary feats.

There is also the Pochonbo Revolutionary Museum.

In Hyesan, the seat of Ryanggang Province, the "Monument to the Victory in the Pochonbo Battle" is standing as a witness of history.

Symposium on Pochonbo Battle

A national scientific symposium marking the 50th anniversary of the victory in the Pochonbo Battle was held in Hyesan on Jun. 1.

Speeches were made at the symposium on the subjects "Brilliant Victory in the Pochonbo Battle Organized and Directed by the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung Is an Immortal Torch Which Heralded the Dawn of National Liberation," "Victory in the Pochonbo Battle Is a Brilliant Fruition of the Original Military Strategy and Art of Command of the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung," "The Pochonbo Battle Organized and Directed by the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung Is a Historical Event Which Shook the Colonial Rule of the Japanese Imperialists over Korea to the Very Bottom," "Victory in the Pochonbo Battle Organized and Directed by the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung Is an Event of World Historic Significance Which Greatly Encouraged the World's Revolutionary People in Their Struggle for National Liberation and Anti-Imperialist, Anti-Fascist Struggle" and so on.

The speakers at the symposium said the Pochonbo Battle organized and commanded victoriously by President Kim Il Sung on Jun. 4, 1937, in the grim period when the Japan's suppression was at its height and the destiny of the nation was at stake, was a historical event which shook the Japanese colonial rule to its very foundation and heralded the brilliant dawn of national rebirth for the people.

They stated that victory in the Pochonbo Battle was a historical event which demonstrated the vitality of his line of anti-Japanese armed struggle and the invincible might of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, an inextinguishable torch which shed light on the dawn of national liberation, convincing the Korean people who were groaning under the Japanese colonial rule that the Korean people were not dead, but alive and that if they fought Japan, they could emerge victorious.

Large Stadium Taking Shape In Pyongyang

A gigantic modern stadium is taking shape rapidly at the Rungrado Recreation Centre in Pyongyang.

Rungra-do is an islet 1.7 kilometres long and 6 kilometers in circumference on the Taedong River flowing through Pyongyang, which is reminiscent of a floral basket floating on water.

A 150,000-seat stadium with a building area of more than 100,000 square metres is under construction on this islet of beautiful scenery with the Moranbong Hill of superb view on one side and the Munsu Street resembling a big city on the other.

The stadium of monumental value is peculiar in its architectural style and modern in its facilities.

The stadium several dozen metres high will be roofed with sixteen rainbow shape shades each 100 metres long.

Scores of events including football, track and field, and javelin will be played in the stadium.

It will house tens of modern training rooms of boxing, judo, wrestling, weightlifting, swimming, etc.

And it will have numerous rooms including study rooms of physical culture and sports knowledge, communication and radio rooms of up-to-the-minute facilities and service establishments and nearly 30 elevators will be available.

Five football training grounds will be laid out outside the stadium.

The builders there have nearly completed skeleton assembling and carried more than 80 percent of inside bricklaying. They are sharply increasing the speed of construction to complete the skeleton project before the end of July and roofing within this year.

In the meantime a big bridge passing through the islet is being constructed for the convenient passage from main Pyongyang to east Pyongyang.

Buddha Image to Be Returned To DPRK

A Korean statue of Buddha, which was brought to Japan by a Japanese when Korea was under its colonial rule, will be returned to the DPRK.

The gilt bronze Buddha image is 16cm high and is believed to have been made in the 13th-14th centuries (the latter period of Koryo).

It is Mr. Sakai Hiroshi who wants to return the Buddha image to the DPRK. He has managed an accounting office at Mito City, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan.

The Buddha image was taken to Japan by his elder brother Mr. Shiono Yukishige in 1922. During the period of Japan's colonial rule of Korea, Mr. Shiono Yukishige was a policeman at Namsan-ri, Nyonbyon County, North Pyongan Province. The Buddha image was unearthed at a construction site near the River Chongchon. He came back to Japan and died in 1951.

Mr. Sakai asked the Kanzaki Temple in Mito City to keep the Buddha image. He has long wanted to return it to the DPRK. Since the DPRK and Japan have no diplomatic ties, Mr. Sakai has not been able to find a way to return it. Thanks to the efforts of the Ibaraki prefectural headquarters of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan), the Buddha image will be returned to the DPRK soon.

Last year some 400 precious national treasures and cultural assets were brought back home thanks to the efforts of the overseas compatriots.

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

DPRK Dels. to Foreign Countries. (Apr. 19 – May 18)

APR. 19.

* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea led by Li Bong Ho, alternate member of the Central Committee of the WPK and chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries to Greece.
* A parliamentary group delegation of the DPRK headed by Son Song Pil, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and vice chairman of the parliamentary group to Nicaragua.

APR. 20.

* The first friendship visiting group of Korea headed by Rim Hyong Gil, vice chairman of the Kangwon Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee to China.

APR. 22.

* A delegation of the General Bureau of Diplomatic Corps Affairs of Korea headed by its Director Han Bong Go to China.

APR. 23.

* A Pyongyang School Children's Art Troupe to Thailand.

APR. 25.

* A Korean delegation headed by Li Gon Il, director of the Hydro-Meteorological Service to Switzerland.

APR. 29.

* A Rodong Sinmun delegation headed by its Deputy Editor-in-Chief So Dong Bom to Bulgaria and Hungary.

MAY 2.

* A Rodong Sinmun delegation headed by its Deputy Editor-in-Chief Pak Jong Sun, to the Soviet Union.
* A delegation of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kwon Min Jun, vice chairman of a department of its Central Committee, to the GDR.

MAY 6.

* A delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK headed by Yang Hyong Sop, chairman of its Standing Committee, to Poland, GDR and Bulgaria.
* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Chi Chang Ik, member of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the Central Committee of the DPRK, to Greece.
* A government delegation of the DPRK headed by Vice President Li Jong Ok, to Uganda.
* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kim Yong Chae, member of the WPK Central Committee and minister of post and telecommunication, to Mexico and Peru.
* A delegation of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland headed by Ryu Ho Jun, director of its secretariat, to Poland and Bulgaria.
* A Korean fine art delegation headed by Li Cho Hup, director of the Mansudae Production, to China.
* A Minju Choson delegation headed by Han Nae Chol, its deputy editor-in-chief, to Hungary and the Soviet Union.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 2)

Korea's Reunification

proceed well with dialogue a quick progress can be made in solving the question of reunification.

Need to Reunify Korea through N-S Dialogue

The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has consistently asserted to solve the question of national reunification through dialogue and consultations. There is no other way but dialogue for a peaceful solution of the question of reunification.

The talks between north and south must be held only for the sake of the reunification, not for the talks sake.

The question of reunification can be solved without difficulty if we take a stand in favor of the reunification, not of division, and priority is given to dialogue, not to conflicts.

To make the dialogue between north and south successful and produce a good result, above all any action of provoking the other party of the dialogues should be discontinued.

Fabrication of fictitious stories aiming at political provocation and military threat against the counterpart in dialogue can not be considered as of a proper attitude for dialogue.

Both parties of the dialogue should dispel misunderstanding and distrust step by step and jointly mature environment for the talks.

Last year alone, we took the initiative of adopting measures to refrain from large-scale military maneuvers and put forth the proposal to turn the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone and to demobilize 150,000 military men for economic construction.

Such efforts of ours for peace have not been duly responded.

Large scale military exercises threatening us have been continuing, thus suspending the dialogues of various themes which had been arranged with expensive efforts. In fact to sit at the table of dialogue, while inciting the political conflict and military confrontation is not different from rejecting the dialogue.

If we are to accomplish the dialogue between north and south and to bring about a good result, a dialogue to solve essential problems arising in realizing the peaceful reunification should take place first.

The problems in the way of reunification are not one or two. Clinging to offshoots instead of giving precedence to dialogue on essential issues is waste of time without any solution.

This was the very reason why in the past, talks between north and south dealing with the economic and humanitarian issues did not produce any result.

N-S High-Level Pol. & Mil. Talks

Under prevailing situation the essential question of primary importance to be solved in realizing the peaceful reunification of the country is how to remove political and military conflicts.

Unless the acute military and political conflicts between north and south are removed, no dialogue and negotiations can make smooth progress in improving relations between north and south and no measure can have positive effects for peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

Proceeding from this point, the government of the D.P.R. of Korea put forward last year a proposal to have north-south high-level political and military talks.

This proposal was supposed to discuss question on removing the political and military conflicts between north and south which awaited a prior solution.

If these talks were held, present state of stalemate between north and south could have been broken and a bright future to the peaceful reunification would have been promising.

The attitude toward this peace proposal can be viewed as a measurement to show whether or not one has an intention to have a dialogue, peace and the reunification.

Next, if the dialogue between north and south is to succeed and bring about a good result, the both parties of the dialogue should show good will and faith.

The dialogue and negotiation would not be held with one-sided efforts and, though held, we can't expect positive result therefrom. And if one side takes an absolute position about its own argument the dialogue could not be held.

The government of our Republic is making every sincere effort with good will and patience to resume the suspended dialogue between the north and the south.

Though the joint military exercise "Team Spirit 87" was threatening us, we proposed, unlike last year, to have a north-south high-level political and military talks.

When south Korea came up with the "unconditional resumption of previous talks" and "summit talks" rejecting our initiative, we suggested to have the north-south high-level political and military talks together with the previous talks.

When south Korea again opposed this suggestion and raised to have prime-ministers' talks, we agreed with it, proposing to have a preliminary talks for the prime-ministers' talks. Nevertheless, south Korea put forth another proposal to have a "water resources talks."

As seen above, we showed so much good will and sincerity that the Western presses said that "the north made big concessions" for the north-south dialogue.

However, the talks are still not open.

As for the "previous dialogues," and "summit talks" upon which the south insists, the government of our Republic does not reject them.

DPRK-U.S. Dialogue Needed

The question is that the problems arising in the relations between the north and the south should be brought to a fair solution.

It is eccentric to discuss matters of economic exchange and questions of reunifying separated families and relatives under the circumstances in which political and military confrontation between north and south is extremely aggravated, and it is obvious that the talks to be held against such background would turn out unsuccessful.

Since the north-south summit talks should be a historic negotiation to open a decisive phase for peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification, the talks must be held when conditions and matured and full arrangements made in advance.

If unreasonable talks are insisted, only wasting time, the people would not welcome it.

The no-dialogue and no-reunification attitude and position will only increase antagonism and hostility within the nation, aggravate tension and prolong the tragedy of national split.

Reunification and dialogue are the way of patriotism, while division and confrontation are the way of treachery.

If we are to prevent our country from being divided into "two Koreas" for good and evade a holocaust that threatens the whole nation, we have no alternative but to arrange dialogue and reunify the country.

We shall continuously make every steady effort to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country by making the dialogue with the south a success, opening the door of dialogue with the United States, and thus bring the question of Korea to a final settlement.

(Continued from page 3)

Foreign Policy of DPRK

to give this measure an insincere explanation saying that it would mean "social contacts" only and the "allies of north Korea should have similar contacts with south Korea."

"The social contacts" only described by the United States would not be enough to remove misunderstanding and distrust between Korea and the United States and would not be of much help in improving the relations between them.

Since the United States took a step of reducing the contact restriction and expressed its will to extend its hands to us, the United States should have practical contacts and hold a productive dialogue irrespective of the venue, formality and level, and take a measure to promote understanding and confidence each other in compliance with the measure of our Republic to keep the door open to the United States.

Next, I would like to brief on the relations between the D.P.R. of Korea and Japan.

If the good-neighborly relations between our Republic and Japan are to be established, we consider that Japan should refrain from maintaining the hostile policy towards our Republic and opposing the reunification of the country but adopt a policy, at least, equal to the north and the south of Korea.

For the sake of security of the Northeast Asia including the Korean Peninsula and peace of the rest of the world, it is my opinion that Japan should exist as an "economically great power" but never as a "great military power."

(Continued from page 6)

* A delegation of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea headed by Pyon Jong Ryop, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the Federation to China.

MAY 7.

* A DPRK trade union delegation headed by Kim Guk Sam, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions to Mongolia.

MAY 10.

* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kim Jae Bong, vice director of a department of its Central Committee to West Berlin.
* A delegation of the Central Public Prosecutors Offices headed by Deputy Prosecutor General Han Chi Sol to the Soviet Union.
* A delegation of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea headed by Vice Chairman of its Central Committee Cho Jang Sin to Cuba.

MAY 13.

* A delegation of the DPRK Radio and TV Broadcasting Committee headed by its Chairman Chu Hyon Ok to Cuba.
* A delegation of the Institute of Educational Science headed by its Director Sin Gil Su to the Soviet Union and the GDR.

MAY 15.

* A delegation of Korean writers headed by Kim Yong Won, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts to the Congo.

MAY 16.

* A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea headed by Kim Jin Bom, vice chairman of its Central Committee to Czechoslovakia.

MAY 18.

* A Korean youth friendship delegation headed by Kim Song Chol, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea to China.

Foreign Dels. to Pyongyang. (May 4–18)

MAY 4.

* A delegation of the Ministry of Fisheries of the Soviet Union headed by its Minister Nikolai Kotlyar.
* A delegation of the Ministry of International Trade of Hungary headed by its Minister Juhar Zoltan.
* A Hungarian trade union delegation headed by Baranyai Tibor, general secretary of the Central Council of Hungarian Trade Unions.
* A delegation of the General Bureau of Archives under the USSR Council of Ministers headed by its General Director Fyodor Vaganor.
* Melba Hernandez, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and director of the Centre of Institutes of Asia and Oceania and his party.
* A delegation of the Lenin Youth Communist League of the Soviet Union headed by secretary of its Central Committee Pyatras Ignotas.

MAY 6.

* A delegation of the United Nations Volunteers Programme headed by its Executive Coordinator Hikmat Nabulsi.
* A delegation of the Japan Christian Consultative Council headed by President of Tokyo Women's University Sumiya Mikio.
* A delegation of the World Knowledge Publishing House of China headed by Yuan Shiyin, deputy editor-in-chief of the publishing house.

MAY 7.

* An Ulan Bator delegation headed by L. Dugarzhav, first vice chairman of the Executive Committee of the Ulan Bator Khural of People's Deputies.
* President of Leon University of Nicaragua Octavio Tomas Martinez.
* Professor of the University of Upsala of Sweden Puterman Zalna and his party.
* A Juche idea study delegation of the National Federico Villareal University of Peru headed by its Vice President Eraclides Bergaray Lara.

MAY 8.

* An ADN delegation headed by its General Director Poetschke.
* Richard E. Butler, secretary general of the International Telecommunications Union.
* Utsunomiya Tokuma, independent member of the House of Councillors of Japan and his party.
* A delegation of the All Japanese Seamen's Union headed by Kawamura Takeshi and Ito Narihiko, professor at Chuo University of Japan.

MAY 12.

* Insurance delegations of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Mongolia to attend the 26th Insurance Conference of Socialist Countries.
* Delegations of UNESCO, Commonwealth Secretariat, China, Kenya, the Philippines, Thailand and Tunisia to the International Operational Workshop for the Production of Low-Cost Materials in Science and Technology for Primary Education.

MAY 13.

* Vishwanath, director of the Board of the International Institute of the Juche Idea and chief editor of the Indian paper Indian Times and his party.
* A delegation of the Oita Prefectural Trade Union Council of Japan headed by Hatano Hisashi, chairman of the council.

MAY 15.

* A Warsaw city friendship delegation of Poland headed by Jerzy Boleslawslei, chairman of the Warsaw City Council.
* A delegation of the International Affairs Institute of the Foreign Ministry of Hungary headed by Vice Director Balazs Jozsef.

MAY 18.

* A delegation of the Civil Defence of the Soviet Union headed by General Uladimir Govorov, vice minister of defence and commander of the Civil Defence of the USSR. **(KCNA)**

Chun Marches Out Of Step

By Paul Calvey
Special to The People's Korea

President Chun Doo Hwan's most recent violations of democracy have put south Korea firmly on the road to violent conflict and bloodshed. It has never been clear which way the wind would blow in south Korea in the run-up to the 1988 Olympics. However, since Apr. 13 it has become obvious that a storm is gathering.

On Apr. 13, only five days after the two Kims had formed a breakaway party that insisted on true democratic reforms and not cosmetic changes, the south Korean dictator decreed that there would be no amendment to the constitution until after the Olympic Games. He also announced that his successor would be chosen early next year, by the same rigged and undemocratic electoral college system that he himself used to come to power. The process was specifically designed to give the unpopular military strongman the look of an elected president. As a result, it is a process that the majority of Koreans deeply distrust.

Before Apr. 13, Chun had hoped to reach an agreement with the New Korea Democratic Party, that would have allowed him to rule the country from the shadows and continue acting like the dictator he is. However, he underestimated the dedication of the "mainstream" opposition to bringing true democracy to south Korea.

The leadership of the newly formed Reunification Democratic Party were well aware that the political argument was not really over a parliamentary vs. a presidential system, but was really over the kind of system that would guarantee more than one party fair access to power. As far as they are concerned, the argument has always been about whether the fascist dictatorship would be replaced by a democratic system of government.

Prior to Chun's April decree there was a great deal of speculation as to the amount of democracy he would permit to succeed him. Now, political matters in south Korea are more black and white. The people are now faced with a straight choice between Chun and democracy. However, it is highly unlikely that this autocratic regime will ever jeopardize its position by allowing them to make that choice in a free and fair election.

Like a spoiled child with psychopathic tendencies, Chun's attitude appears to be, if you won't let me pull the wool over your eyes, then I'll have you arrested or killed.

His actions have resulted in an intensification in the process of political polarization. He has thrown aside the pretense of democracy, that for a long time has been successful in keeping his American bedfellows happy and south Korean moderates quiet. As a consequence, even the usually conservative elements in the opposition are beginning to talk about armed insurrection. As they become aware that democratic reforms will never take place as long as the Chun junta continues to run the show, open revolt becomes their most likely means of expression.

Since Apr. 13, the pace of protest in south Korea has been on the increase. Organized agitation against the Chun junta has become a regular feature, with students and religious leaders playing a more prominent role. Hardly a day passes without a demonstration. Political arrests have become the order of the day and political suicides are once again on the headlines. Riot police have been some of Seoul's churches to their list of battlefields. Tear gas and insensitive violence have been meted out to students in a number of skirmishes at universities across the country. Press freedom has been strangled and demonstrations involving tens of thousands of outraged citizens have been taking place to protest against the June 10 nomination of Roh Tae Woo, who is being groomed in the intricacies of dictatorship. Indeed, the atmosphere in south Korea is more highly charged than ever before.

Ever since the February 1985 elections, it has been clear that the opposition commands more popular support than at any time since 1981. However, over the last couple of months the popularity of the opposition has grown by leaps and bounds, with the result that, it now seems more determined than ever to topple the government, even in spite of massive repression by the agencies of coercion. There is a feeling among journalists that "Philippines 11-the People Power Movie" is about to be made and promises to be even more dramatic than its forerunner. There can be no doubt that history is in the making on the Korean Peninsula.

It came as no surprise to hear, on May 27, that political, religious and human rights leaders, in defiance of Chun's military might, had formed a new opposition coalition calling for a people's uprising.

When you consider that the new coalition, the National Movement for a Democratic Constitution, was formed in a Seoul church, one wonders if nuns will be confronting helicopter gun ships with crucifixes before long. The increasing involvement of the Catholic Church and other Christian organizations is a definite parallel with the situation in the Philippines just before people power really took off.

Members of the coalition have sworn to step up opposition to the government and have been quoted as saying, "If we rise up and join hands, it will not be too difficult to oust the military dictatorship and set up a democratic God on their side they may be right.

One thing is certain, the formation of this new coalition will definitely lead to more confrontation in south Korea. Citing the Philippines, members of the coalition have vowed to take their struggle into the streets and have called on Koreans to unite in support of the opposition.

In a statement endorsed by some 2,200 dissident and religious leaders it was stated, "As long as the military dictatorship exists, the sighs, tears and agony of the people will not cease in this land."

No doubt Chun's response to the growing popularity of the opposition will be to continue trying to dismantle the democratic movement in his own inimitable style. However, much to his distain, the democratic movement is not going to go away, but looks like stepping up its agitation with renewed vigor and continuing with its demands for a representative voice. It looks as if the new coalition is Goliath, and if history is anything to go on, it will triumph eventually.

Surprisingly as it may seem, if one is to make an honest analysis of Korean-American relations over the last four decades you will not find a single instance where American power intervened on the side of democratic forces.

In contrast, however, history has shown, that in a political crisis, any American regime, whether it be Democratic or Republican, will support the anti-democratic forces, namely, the military, the police and the intelligence agencies.

American hypocrisy and flagrant disregard for human rights in this satellite nation has been in evidence ever since the partition of the country.

In 1948, the U.S. backed the Rhee regime, calling it a building democracy in public, while labeling it dictatorial and corrupt in secret reports. It is fair to assume that the same disception is being used today.

In 1961, it backed the Park regime which came to power by a military coup, and in 1980, it allowed troops under its operational control to slaughter as many as 2,000 civilians, in what has become known as the Kwangju massacre.

The reasons for American hypocrisy are quite simple: south Korea's strategic position is much more important to the American way of thinking than human rights or democratization, and its expanding industrial base is extremely important to American business, which sees a lot of fast bucks riding around on the backs of Koreans.

So, where does that leave us? We have the opposition squaring up for a showdown, a military madman who has openly referred to genocide as a plausible solution and the mighty Americans, who have all the cards up their sleaves and are in a quandry about whether to do the just thing and ease yet another dictator into comfortable retirement, or continue condoning the uncondonable.

Some commentators are saying that America's tolerance of the Chun regime has seriously contributed to the underlying problems in the country. Stephen Solarz, chairman of the Asian Pacific Subcommittee, has recently said, "The people of south Korea should know that we Americans don't countenance the continued denial of democracy."

A further sign that some Americans are wakening up to their country's disgraceful track record in south Korea came recently when Thomas Foglietta introduced a bill calling for economic sanctions against south Korea unless it demonstrated progress in moving towards democracy. However, moves like this are still a long way from changing America's traditionally static approach to south Korean problems.

Meanwhile, Chun has been expecting violence for a long time. A great deal of informed opinion is of the belief that he wants a people's uprising so he can crush democratic forces for all time in a bloodbath that will go down in history. Even before he put an end to constitutional debate, it was obvious that he was expecting social unrest. In his carefully prepared Apr. 13 announcement, Chun stated that he would "rigorously restore social discipline, which tends to become lax in any transition period," and went on to threaten harsh treatment for those who attempted to create "social chaos."

Ironically Chun is calling this "transition" period "the first peaceful transition of power in south Korea," when in reality it is shaping up to be one of the bloodiest periods in Korean history. It is not a transition period either. The only changes that will result if the ruling elite has its way will be a new face on the same old dictatorship.

His term of office comes to an end in only nine months and national elections must then be held. Unless, of course, Chun decides to break his word again.

As the sun begins to set on this enigmatic figure one wonders if we are watching a desperate dictator who has just realized that he takes the same shoe size as Marcos.

Anything is possible in the coming months as the opposition becomes more determined to unite the people, and put an end to the oppression. Chun is also likely to become more desperate and more prepared to resort to violence in order to maintain his rule. As has been said many times when discussing Korean matters, the United States holds the key to the situation.

EDITORIAL

Need to Improve Pyongyang-Washington Relation

The Conference on Security and Economic Development in Asia and the Pacific, held for three days from May 28 to 30 in Tokyo, was attended by experts from the countries heavily concerned with peace in this region – the DPRK, the USSR, China, the United States, Japan and south Korea.

The great attention the conference, co-sponsored by the Institute for Sino-Soviet Studies of George Washington University of the U.S. and The Yomiuri Shimbun, drew was attributable to its participants.

DPRK experts for the first time took part in the conference, the third of its kind. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur attended the conference as a special guest. The USSR sent three representatives, including Mikhail Kapitsa, director of the Institute for Oriental Studies and former deputy foreign minister.

The conference is regarded as a very significant one as it was attended by all the countries concerned and frank opinions were given by experts from the U.S. and the Soviet Union, who are deeply involved in the Asian and Korean political affairs. It is also significant that all the participants voiced a wish to see the peaceful reunification of Korea through dialogue and expressed their opinion that the peaceful solution of Korean problem is a key to stability and economic development in Northeast Asia.

The speech of a DPRK delegate, titled, "Foreign Policy of D.P.R.K.", referred mainly to the relationship between the DPRK and the U.S.

He stressed in the speech, "If the Korea-U.S. relation is to be improved from its present state of hostility, first of all, a practical step should be taken to reduce tensions on the Korean Peninsula," and "the government of our Republic is always ready to negotiate with the United States and respond with a tangible step to a constructive proposal by the U.S."

As is well-known, the relations between Pyongyang and Washington is in an extremely abnormal state. Pyongyang has directed every effort in the past to change this "abnormal state", and put forward various proposals for that purpose.

Though Washington has not indicated any positive signal toward them, some shift in its recent policy toward Pyongyang does not escape our attention.

This includes the step for easing restrictions on contacts between officials of the two countries and the Apr. 27 remarks by U.S. President Reagan.

Pyongyang reacted positively to these changes, expressing its will to respond to them with "sincerity."

It also urged the U.S. to take practical steps to promote a substansive change in the relations between the two countries.

Anyway, with regard to the urgent task of promoting peace and the peaceful reunification of Korea, the Pyongyang-Washington relation should be improved as soon as possible through productive talks regardless of place, formality or level.

If the U.S. president's remarks are true, practical steps should be taken from the Washington side.

Sigur said in a speech at May 28 luncheon, "Action is needed to resolve specific sources of tension."

We will see how the Americans put into practice what they said.

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